

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A medical device, comprising:

a structure comprising a polymer matrix and a first ceramic fiber embedded in the matrix,
the first ceramic fiber comprising a first metalloid, wherein each dimension of the first ceramic
fiber is equal to or greater than one micron, and the device is in the form of a stent, a stent-graft,
a graft, a medical balloon, or a catheter.

2. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 1, wherein the first ceramic fiber further
comprises a second metalloid.

3. (Previously presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the first metalloid
comprises an element selected from the group consisting of silicon and boron.

4. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 2, wherein the first ceramic fiber comprises
silicon borocarbonitride.

5. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 1, wherein the first ceramic fiber further
comprises a non-metallic element.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the first ceramic fiber is at least about five microns long.

8. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the first ceramic fiber is from about five microns to about 25,000 microns long.

9. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the first ceramic fiber is at least about five microns wide.

10. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the first ceramic fiber is from about five microns to about 500 microns wide.

11. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the first ceramic fiber extends continuously along an entire length of the device.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 1, further comprising a second ceramic fiber different from the first ceramic fiber.

14. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the structure is a tubular member.

15. (Original) The device of claim 1, in the form of a stent.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 1, in the form of a graft, a medical balloon, or a catheter.

18. (Original) The device of claim 1, further comprising a therapeutic agent.
19. (Currently amended) A medical device, comprising:
a structure comprising
 a ceramic fiber; and
 a non-ceramic fiber comprising stainless steel, a nickel-titanium alloy, or a combination thereof, wherein the ceramic fiber is intertwined with the non-ceramic fiber, and the device is in the form of a stent, a stent-graft, or a graft.
20. (Original) The device of claim 19, wherein each dimension of the ceramic fiber is equal to or greater than one micron.
21. (Original) The device of claim 19, wherein the non-ceramic fiber comprises stainless steel.
22. (Original) The device of claim 19, wherein the non-ceramic fiber comprises a nickel-titanium alloy.
23. (Original) The device of claim 19, wherein the ceramic fiber is knitted with the non-ceramic fiber.
24. (Original) The device of claim 19, wherein the ceramic fiber is woven with the non-ceramic fiber.
25. (Original) The device of claim 19, wherein the ceramic fiber comprises a therapeutic agent.

26-32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously presented) A medical device, comprising:
a tubular structure; and
a polymer element on the tubular structure, wherein the polymer element comprises a ceramic fiber comprising a metalloid and each dimension of the ceramic fiber is equal to or greater than one micron.

34. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 33, in the form of a stent-graft.

35. (Original) The device of claim 33, wherein the ceramic fiber is from about ten microns to about 1,000 microns long.

36. (Original) The device of claim 33, wherein the ceramic fiber is from about ten microns to about 100 microns long.

37. (Original) The device of claim 33, wherein the ceramic fiber is from about one micron to about 50 microns wide.

38. (Original) The device of claim 33, wherein the ceramic fiber is about ten microns wide.

39. (Original) The device of claim 33, wherein the ceramic fiber has an aspect ratio of from about 5:1 to about 500:1.

40. (Original) The device of claim 33, wherein the ceramic fiber has an aspect ratio of from about 5:1 to about 200:1.

41-45. (Canceled)

46. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 1, in the form of a stent-graft.

47-50. (Canceled)

51. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 2 in which said device is a stent or stent-graft.